

Message Text

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ACTION SS-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-03 L-01 INR-05 SSO-00 /024 W

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P 131430Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 939

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LIMDIS

FOR UNDER SECRETARY MAW AND EB - STYLES AND RIMAS

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EAIR, PE

SUBJ: CIVAIR - AEROPERU OPERATING PERMIT

REF: STATE 151179, LIME 5742

1. DR. LUIS SOLARI, INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHO IS SENIOR FONOFF OFFICIAL CONCERNED WITH CIVAIR, CALLED EMBASSY'S ECONOMIC COUNSELOR LATE MORNING JULY 12 IN STATE OF GREAT AGITATION. HE HAD JUST DISCOVERED INTERESTING ITEM OF INFORMATION, NOT REPORTED TO US IN STATE 151179, THAT PRESIDENT IN HIS JUNE 14 LETTER TO CAB HAD RECOMMENDED THAT AEROPERU'S AUTHORITY TO FLY LOS ANGELES-MEXICO CITY BLIND SECTOR SHOULD BE VALID ONLY UNTIL AEROPERU COMMENCED SERVICE TO NEW YORK. (COPY OF PRESIDENT'S LETTER, WHICH WE HAD NOT SEEN, WAS SENT TO SOLARI BY PERUVIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.)

2. DR. SOLARI CONSIDERS THIS UNWARRANTED PRESSURE ON THE GOP AND NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPIRIT WHICH HAS IN RECENT MONTHS MARKED INFORMAL U.S.-PERUVIAN BILATERAL CONVERSATIONS ON CIVAIR SUBJECTS. ECON COUNSELOR TRIED
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TO LIMIT DAMAGE BY POINTING OUT THAT AEROPERU HAS NO

IMMEDIATE PLANS TO FLY TO NEW YORK IN ANY CASE, AND THAT INTENT OF PRESIDENT'S LESTER WAS TO PROVIDE REASONABLE TIME FOR BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS OF OUTSTANDING ISSUES TO BE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED. DR. SOLARI EXPRESSED AGREEMENT THAT THIS WAS PROBABLY THE CASE, BUT NOTED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD HAVE TO REPORT THIS NEWLY-DISCOVERED INFORMATION TO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

3. COMMENT: DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT AS INSTRUCTED BY STATE 124189 AMBASSADOR MADE PRESENTATION IN LATE MAY TO FOREIGN MINISTER AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT INDICATING THAT DEPARTMENT WAS RECOMMENDING ISSUANCE OF NEW YORK PERMIT AND TEMPORARY PERMISSION CONTINUE (CONCURRENTLY, WE THOUGHT) LOS ANGELES-MEXICO FLIGHTS. THIS NEWS WAS CAST IN POSITIVE TERMS AS A TEMPORARY SOLUTION TO AN EXISTING IMPASSE WHICH COULD, WITH EVENTUAL CONSULTATION ON OUTSTANDING ISSUES, LEAD TO A PERMANENT SOLUTION. NEITHER THAT MESSAGE NOR SUBSEQUENT COMMUNICATIONS SUGGESTED TO US THAT LA-MEXICO PERMIT WAS LIMITED TO PERIOD PRIOR AEROPERU'S COMMENCEMENT NEW YORK FLIGHTS. THUS, JULY 12 NEWS FROM FONOFF ALSO CAME AS DISAGREEABLE SURPRISE TO US. WE HOPE THAT PERUVIAN IRE WILL NOT IMPERIL BRANIFF'S APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF NEW FLIGHT SCHEDULE, WHICH EXPECTED WEEK OF JULY 26. FIRST REACTION OF BRANIFF'S LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE HE
E IS THAT THIS TURN OF EVENTS
MIGHT HAVE UNFAVORABLE RESULTS AT CRITICAL POINT IN PERU'S DECISION-MAKING PROCESS.
DEAN

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